

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

October 6, 2023



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Monroe County District
Attorney's Office

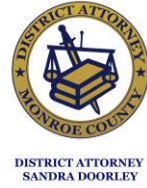
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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

Message from Sandra Doorley

[Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)

October marks the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Many assume that domestic violence is only physical abuse in a marital relationship. Domestic Violence goes much further.

Domestic Violence includes crime between family members or intimate partners. In my office, we have a Domestic Violence Bureau, led by Chief Patrick Gallagher, with six full time Assistant District Attorneys. I am also pleased to announce that we are bringing in an additional ADA to staff the Family Justice Center in order to be on-site and available to survivors who need immediate resources. These specialized attorneys prosecute cases including Criminal Contempt, Assault, Strangulation, Stalking, Kidnapping, and even homicides. As of September 30 our domestic violence bureau has taken in 539 felony cases in 2023.

Earlier this week, the Willow Domestic Violence Center and the Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium released its annual report to the community.

According to the report, in 2022, 41,453 calls to 9-1-1 were made that were classified as domestic disputes. These numbers are heartbreaking and show that the issue of domestic violence is a tremendous public safety concern. There were also 4,549 reports of domestic violence in the categories of aggravated assault, simple assault, sex offenses, and order of protection violations. There were also 4,021 petitions for orders of protection filed in Family Court, with 4,059 temporary orders of protection granted, and 911 final orders of protection granted.

Domestic Violence cases can be some of the most difficult to prosecute due to the nature of the relationship between the victim and offender. Often, abusers will intimidate or threaten victims into becoming uncooperative with police and prosecutors. This is why we are so excited about the launch of the Family Justice Center later this year. We hope that this new innovative center will give the survivors the resources they need to live safely and without fear.

Domestic Violence is not a new problem, but what can you do to spread awareness and help serve those who feel trapped in a domestic violence situation?

Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

City of Rochester Total:
45

Monroe County Total: 50

*You can urge them to call or text the Willow Domestic Violence Center hotline. This hotline is available 24/7, is free and **confidential**. The 24 hour hotline is (585) 222-SAFE (7233) and the 24 hour text line is (585) 348-SAFE (7233). There are a plethora of resources available through Willow and I urge you or someone you know to take advantage. Stay tuned for information on how to access the Family Justice Center.*

If you are in a domestic violence situation, please know, the Monroe County District Attorney's Office will not give up on you. The cases are not easy, but we will do everything in our power to seek justice and protect you and your family.

Sandra



Highlights from the MCDA's Office

The trial for the **People vs. Kelvin Vickers** will continue into next week. This case is being prosecuted by Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles. The defendant is charged with Aggravated Murder, four counts of Murder in the 1st Degree, Murder in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Aggravated Murder, two counts of Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 2nd Degree, fourteen counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree, and Arson in the 4th Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Hahn.

On September 29, 2023, 21-year old **Deandre Newsome** pled guilty to Assault in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree in relation to a non-fatal shooting that occurred on March 15, 2023 on Kelly Street in the City of Rochester. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department. The defendant will be sentenced to state prison on January 16, 2024 by Monroe County Court Judge Vacca. This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Task Force.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Walsh sentenced 32-year-old **Ammenra Felton** to 25 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections following his jury conviction of Murder in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the murder of Charlotte Thomas. On January 23, 2022, at approximately 5:00PM, Rochester Police Officers responded to Lyell Avenue and Child Street, where they located Charlotte Thomas, who was found with a gunshot wound lying in the road. Charlotte Thomas was immediately rushed to Strong Memorial Hospital but died from her injuries around 10:00PM. After a swift and thorough investigation, the Rochester Police Department identified Ammenra Felton as the shooter. The defendant shot Charlotte Thomas during an altercation, although she was not known to the defendant. Following the murder, Ammenra Felton fled to Sugarland, Texas. He was located and arrested by Rochester Police Officers and members of the United States Marshals Task Force with the assistance of local Texas law enforcement. The case was prosecuted by former Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Hyatt.

28-year-old **Marcus Harris** was convicted of Robbery in the 1st Degree, Robbery in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. On June 11, 2022, Marcus Harris arrived at a corner store on Joseph Avenue where he confronted a man by pointing a handgun at him numerous times, eventually demanding his jewelry. Following the robbery, he ran to a motor vehicle and fled the scene. Approximately 20 minutes later, the vehicle was spotted by Rochester Police Officers and a traffic stop was attempted, however, Marcus Harris hit a Rochester Police cruiser and a chase ensued. The defendant only came to a stop when he crashed the vehicle into a utility pole. A search of the crashed vehicle yielded a fully loaded Polymer 80 handgun. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and the New York State Police. Marcus Harris was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Megan Hausner, of the Major Felony Bureau. Marcus Harris will be sentenced on October 27, 2023, in front of acting Monroe County Court Judge Richard Healy as a violent predicate felony offender.

Rashard Gibson was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 5th Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on September 13, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Kevin Dukes was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree, Aggravated Family Offense, and Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree in relation to the homicide of Constance Henry. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Monica O'Brien, Deputy Chief of the Local Courts Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney Kristina Hinkley, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Charles Phillips and **Quinson Reed** were each indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to illegal weapons possessions on August 31, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Eddie Williams was indicted on Burglary in the 2nd Degree in relation to an unlawful entrance of a property on Hudson Avenue in the City of Rochester on September 8, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Brandon Gonzalez, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Franklin Floyd was indicted on two counts of Robbery in the 1st Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree, two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree, Menacing in the 2nd Degree and Endangering the Welfare of a Child in relation to multiple domestic related incidents. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Adeosun Hughes was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on September 13, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Tykel Banks was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of illegal narcotics and an illegal firearm on August 16, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Merrick Sadler, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Marcus Buckman was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm and narcotics on September 14, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Wayne Barrett, Jr. was indicted on Strangulation in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 3rd Degree, and Resisting arrest in relation to multiple domestic related incidents. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Khiry Harris was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics and a firearm. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bridget Morgan, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Shawn Hunter was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics and a firearm on April 11, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Puspa Acharya was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Menacing in the 2nd Degree in relation to multiple domestic related incidents. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Marcus Joseph and **Josiah Sturgis** were indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on September 15, 2023. Josiah Sturgis was also indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree and Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

MCDA in the Community

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley joined Monroe County Executive Adam Bello at the Courage Bowl XVIII. Together, they presented a proclamation to Camp Good Days and Special Times and performed the opening coin toss. This annual sporting event is between the St. John Fisher University Cardinals and The College at Brockport Golden Eagles, to benefit the children and families at Camp Good Days. Thank you to the colleges and the athletes for continuing this excellent tradition!



Assistant District Attorneys in the Local Courts Bureau attended the Strong Museum of Play to learn more about the community and participate in team bonding!



Welcome to the MCDA's Office!

This week, we welcomed Assistant District Attorney John Ark! You probably know him as a retired New York State Supreme Court Justice. This is the second time he has held the title of Assistant District Attorney and we are lucky to have him. ADA Ark will be assisting in the supervision of our local court prosecutors!



MCDA in the News

<https://13wham.com/news/local/shooting-during-argument-man-sentenced-for-shooting-woman-to-death-rochester-crime-investigation-lyell-avenue-altercation-police-marshals-fugitive>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/ammenra-felton-sentenced-to-25-years-to-life-for-murder-of-charlotte-thomas/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/10/05/officer-sino-seng-dramatic-testimony-trial-airs-police-ambush-account/71075725007/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/jury-selection-starts-monday-in-vickers-trial/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/woman-accused-in-henrietta-kidnapping-case-pleads-guilty/>

<https://13wham.com/newsletter-daily/graphic-evidence-presented-to-jury-in-kelvin-vickers-trial>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/10/04/dna-from-handgun-linked-to-kelvin-vickers-court-testimony-anthony-mazurkiewicz-homicide-trial/71054989007/>

<https://13wham.com/newsletter-daily/police-officer-murdered-kelvin-vickers-trial-anthony-mazurkiewicz-rochester-police-investigation-prosecutors-monroe-county-crime-accused-cop-killer>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/stay-awake-maz-rpd-tactical-unit-members-recall-the-night-anthony-mazurkiewicz-was-killed-at-vickers-trial>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/kelvin-vickers-trial-tactical-officers-testify-about-night-of-officer-mazurkiewicz-death/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/police/officer-sino-seng-to-take-the-stand-in-the-trial-of-kelvin-vickers/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/rochester/jury-shown-security-footage-in-kelvin-vickers-trial-anthony-mazurkiewicz-rpd/>

<https://13wham.com/newsletter-daily/man-indicted-for-stabbing-woman-to-death-at-rochester-home>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on monroecounty.gov/da.